



McEACHERN, Joseph A. "Joe" [D]—(Dist. No. 77, Richland Co.)—Real Estate Broker; residing in Columbia; *b.* Apr. 10 in Dillon; *s.* the late Lawrence and the late Gilbertine McEachern; attended Furman Univ. and Columbia Intl. Univ.; June 21 *m.* Penny Smith, 2 children, Joseph II and Aaron; former Richland Co. Sheriff Dep.; former mem.: Bd. of Dirs., Central Midlands Council of Govts., S.C. Central Carolina Econ. Alliance; Regional Transportation Authority; S.C. Assn. of Counties Legis. Com.; Student Adv. Com. of Cyril Busbee, State Dept. of Educ. and Gov. John C. West, 1972–73; Richland Co. Council, 1997–08, Chm., 2007–08; Dir., Christian Educ., Ridgewood Baptist Church.



MCLEOD, Walton J. [D]—(Dist. No. 40, Newberry-Lexington Cos.)—Businessman/Atty.; residing at 308 Pomaria St., Little Mountain; *b.* June 30, 1937 in Walterboro; *s.* the late Walton J., Jr. and the late Rhoda Lane (Brown) McLeod; *g.* Yale Univ., B.A., 1959; Univ. of S.C., LL.B., 1964; attended Univ. of Minn. Public Health School, summer, 1972; *m.* Julie E. Hamiter, 1 child; Law Clerk, Chief Judge Clement Haynsworth, U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals, 1964–65; Atty., Pope & Schumpert, 1965–67; Asst. U.S. Atty., 1967–68; Gen. Counsel, S.C. DHEC, 1968–94; Dep. S.C. Atty. Gen., 1987–88; Newberry Co. Magistrate, 1973–81; Mayor of Little Mtn., 1983–89, 1993–96; Trustee, S.C. State Museum, 1981–85; Bd. mem.: S.C. Housing Fin. and Dev. Authority, 1977–96; Bd. of Visitors, Med. Univ. of S.C., 1995–96; Newberry Co. Council on Aging, 2001–; Newberry Coll. Foundation, 2005–; S.C. Alzheimer's Assn., 2007–; S.E. Inst. for Women in Politics, 2007–; S.C. Humanities Council, 2008–; Pres., Newberry Jaycees, 1967; Pres., South Caroliniana Soc., 1990–93; Chair, Central Midlands Council of Govts., 1981–82, 2001–03; Pres., S.C. Magistrates Assn., 1976–77; State Pres., S.C. Reserve Offs., 1981–82; Natl. Pres., Judge Advocates Assn., 1991–92; Editorial Adv. Bd., S.E. Environmental Law Journal, 1993–;

J. B. O'Neill Inn of Court, 1996—; recipient of Outstanding Freshman Rep. Award, 1997; S.C. Reserve Off. of the Year, 1998; Outstanding Legislator Award, Gift of Life Trust Fund, 1999; Legis. Appreciation Award, S.C. Assn. of Conservation Dists., 2006; Outstanding Serv. Award, S.C. Amer. Legion, 2006; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Human Serv. Providers Assn., 2008; 1st VC, Jud. Com., 2006–08; mem.: Amer. Legion; Ruritan Club; Mason; Hejaz Shriner; Holy Trinity Lutheran Church; mil. serv.: USN, 1959–61, 1963 & 1990—Capt., USN Reserve (Ret.); prev. serv. in House 1997–08.

MERRILL, James "Jim" [R]—(Dist. No. 99, Berkeley-Charleston Cos.)—Public Relations Consultant, Geechie Communications; residing at 2401 Daniel Island Dr., Daniel Island; *b.* Jan. 15, 1967 in Pensacola, Fla.; *s.* James H. and Annette McGregor Merrill; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., 1989, M.P.A., 1992; Aug. 29, 1992 *m.* Noel Marie Gaillard, 3 children, Delaney Marie, Haley McGregor, and Darby Lee; Press Secy. for Congressman Floyd Spence, 1989–92; Political Dir., S.C. Rep. Party, 1992–98; Dist. Admin. for Congressman Mark Sanford, 1994; Owner, Geechie Communications, 1994—; mem., Univ. of S.C. Alumni Assn.; past Pres., Sigma Chi Frat.; S.C. Policy Council; Berkeley Co. Rep. Party; Whip, Majority Caucus; Fin. Com., Majority Leader, 2004; Univ. of S.C. Gamecock Club; Daniel Island Neighborhood Assn.; mem., Stella Maris Catholic Church; prev. serv. in House 2001–08.



MILLER, Vida Osteen [D]—(Dist. No. 108, Charleston-Georgetown Cos.)—Retailer, Grayman Gallery; native South Carolinian, residing at Pawleys Island; attended North Greenville Coll. & Bob Jones Univ.; *m.* James Dores Miller; mem., Georgetown Co. School Bd., 1988–94, Secy., 1992–94; past Bd. mem. and organizer, Georgetown Co. Human Relations Council; past Bd. mem. and organizer, Pawleys Island-Litchfield Merchants Assn., 1986–89; past Bd. mem., Waccamaw Arts & Craft Guild, 1992–94; past Regional Dir.-Mem. with Excellence,



S.C. Watercolor Soc., 1992–95; Bd. mem., Georgetown Co. Watercolor Soc.; mem.: Georgetown Co. League of Women Voters; Georgetown Co. Bus. and Professional Women; Bd. mem., Rice Museum Cultural Dev.; S.C. School Bds. Assn., Outstanding Legislator of the Year, 1999 and 2000; Chm., Georgetown Co. Legis. Del.; General Assembly Mem., S.C. School Bds. Strategic Planning Team; Secy., House Dem. Caucus; Educ. & Public Works Com.; Subcoms.: Higher Educ. and Gen. Hwy.; Agric., Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Com., Secy., 1996–98; mem.: Environmental Affairs I Subcom.; S.C. Dept. of Transportation Road Enhancement Com.; S.C. Dept. of Transportation Minority Bus. Com.; Invitations and Memorial Resolutions Com.; Bd. mem., Waccamaw Regional Planning Comm.; GSATS (Grand Strand Area Transportation Study Com.) VC, 1998–04, Chm., 2004–06; Natl. Foundation of Women Legislators; Gov’s Middle School Task Force; Palmetto Pride; Tourism Caucus; Bd., First Steps; Georgetown Co. BPW Career Woman of the Year, 2002–03; Sierra Club Legislator of the Year, 2003–04; Georgetown YMCA Bd. of Dirs.; S.C. School Admins. Assn. Legis. Award, 2005; Arts Caucus; Co-Chm., House Arts Caucus, 2006; S.C. School Counselors Legis. Award, 2006; *Coastal Business Magazine*’s Award for 30 Most Powerful Women in Horry and Georgetown Cos., 2005 and 2006; prev. serv. in House 1997–08.



MILLWOOD, Joseph B. “Joey” [R]—(Dist. No. 38, *Spartanburg Co.*)—Journalist; residing at 1603 Columbus Rd. in Landrum; *b.* Nov. 20, 1979 in Spartanburg; *s.* John R. and Donna Boatman Millwood; *g.* Univ. of S.C. Upstate, B.A., 2005; July 26, 2003 *m.* Erin Henderson, 1 child, Eliza Cait; past journalist for Spartanburg *Herald-Journal*, *Tryon Daily Bulletin*, *Hometown News*; past mem., Coll. Reps.; past Pres., Rep. of the Landrum Precinct; mem.: Kappa Sigma Frat.; First Baptist North Spartanburg.

MITCHELL, Harold, Jr. [D]—(Dist. No. 31, *Spartanburg Co.*)—Exec. Dir., Regenesis; residing at 505 North St., Spartanburg; *b.* June 3, 1965 in Spartanburg; *s.* Margaret Duckett Mitchell and the late Harold Mitchell; attended S.C. State Univ., 1984–85; Univ. of S.C., 1985–88; attending Dominion Bible Coll.; Aug. 13, 1988 *m.* Wanda Dawkins Mitchell, 3 children, David Benjamin, Elizabeth Ann, and Hannah Grace; mem.: EPA, Natl. Environmental Justice Adv. Council; BMW Comm. Adv. Council; State Competitive Initiative Task Force on Distress Com.; Bd. of Govs., Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce; Chm., Spartanburg Housing Dev.; mem., Dominion Comm. Church; prev. serv. in House Nov. 29, 2005–08.



MOSS, Dennis Carroll [D]—(Dist. No. 29, *Cherokee-Chester-York Cos.*)—Retired, S.C. Hwy. Patrol; residing at 306 Silver Cir., Gaffney; *b.* Jan. 13, 1954 in Union; *s.* the late James Edward and Mary Ivey Moss; *g.* Union High School, 1972; attended Spartanburg Methodist Coll.; June 24, 1978 *m.* Janet Ellis, 1 child, Brandon Lindsay; mem.: Lions Intl.; Sertoma Intl.; Gaffney #186 Masonic Lodge; Cherokee Shrine Club; Hejaz Shrine Temple; Buford St. Methodist Church, Laymember to Annual Conf.; mem., Bd. of Dirs.: Cherokee Co. Habitat for Humanity; Cherokee Co. Senior Citizens Center; Sportsman Caucus; prev. serv. in House 2007–08.



NANNEY, Wendy Kay [R]—(Dist. No. 22, *Greenville Co.*)—Credit Mgr.; residing at 103 Hermitage Rd., Greenville; *b.* April 16, 1965 in Greenville; *d.* Bob and Barb Taylor; *g.* Bob Jones Univ., B.S., 1987; Dec. 12, 1986 *m.* Timothy Lee Nanney, 5 children, Meredith, Taylor, Kacey, Travis, and Maggie; Chm., Greenville Co. Rep. Party, 2006–07; Treas., Upstate Rep. Women's Club, 2003–06; Winning Women Graduate, 2006; former



staff, Sen. Foreign Relations Com.; mem., Hampton Park Baptist Church.



NEAL, James M. "Jimmy" [D]—(Dist. No. 44, *Lancaster Co.*)—Retired Principal; residing at 5148 Sandy Lane, Kershaw; *b.* Apr. 30, 1943; *s.* Annie Neal Smith and the late James M. Neal; *g.* Clemson Univ., B.S., 1965; Winthrop Univ., M.Ed., 1978; July 17, 1966 *m.* Harriett Hawkins, 2 children, Bryant and Scott; former mem., Lancaster Co. Literacy Council; former mem., Lancaster Co. Election Comm., 1990–98; inducted into the Lancaster Co. Educ. Hall of Fame, 2006; EMS Legislator of the Year, 2007; Center Grove Baptist Church; prev. serv. in House May 4, 1999–08.



NEAL, Joseph H. "Joe" [D]—(Dist. No. 70, *Richland-Sumter Cos.*)—Minister/VP, New Horizons Systems, Inc.; Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Chester; residing at 1326 Clarkson Rd., Hopkins; *b.* Aug. 31, 1950; *s.* Choatte R., Sr. and LaVerne K. Neal; *g.* Benedict Coll., B.A., 1972; post graduate studies, Colgate Divinity, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary; Hon. D.D., Benedict Coll.; Chm., Citizens for Hopkins Comm. Organization; mem.: Moving Forward Comm. Group; NAACP; Kappa Alpha Psi Frat., Inc.; Amer. Soc. Software Engineers; Bd. of Dirs., past mem., S.C. Fair Share; co-founder, CLEAN—Citizens Local Environment Action Network; Bd. mem., S.C. Environmental Watch; founder and Bd. mem., Area Communities in Econ. Dev. (Comm. Dev. Corp.); Sumter Area Econ. Dev.; Bd. mem., Funds for Southern Coms.; Lower Richland Water Authority, Lower Richland Comm. Council; past mem., First Union Bank Comm. Reinvestment Act Adv. Bd.; Rural Sumter Comm. for Econ. Dev.; Chm., Citizens for Hopkins Neighborhood Assns.; Gov's Nuclear Waste Task Force; Co-Chm., S.C. Progressive Network; Bd. mem., AAEJAN—The African Amer. Environmental Action Network; Chm., S.C. Legis. Black Caucus, 2000–02; Dep. Dem. Leader; House Ways and Means Com.; prev. serv. in House 1993–08.

NEILSON, Denny Woodall [D]—(Dist. No. 56, Chesterfield-Darlington Cos.)—District Technology Student Job Placement Coordinator; *d.* the late Lula (Denny) Woodall and the late Lawrence W. Woodall; *g.* Anderson Junior Coll.; Coker Coll., B.S.; Winthrop Univ., M.S.; Univ. of S.C. & Nova Univ., Post Graduate; Powers Modeling & Finishing School, N.Y.; *m.* David S. Neilson; mem., Central Baptist Church; former mem.: Darlington City Council; former Chm., House Ethics Com.; mem., Darlington Co. Council on Aging; S.C. Health Coordinating Council; Bd. of Trustees, Gov's School for Science & Math; Bd. of Dirs., Darlington Chamber of Commerce; Pres., Darlington Pilot Club; Darlington Co. Educ. Assn.; Pres., Natl. Assn. Accredited Talent & Beauty Judges; S.C. Educ. Assn. Human Relations Award; S.C. Distinguished Teacher-Citizen Award; Darlington Lions Club Goodfellow Award, 1985; Darlington Bus. & Professional Women's Assn. Woman of the Year, 1985; S.C. Voc. Dir. Assn. Voc. Educ. Leadership Award, 1987 and 1996; S.C. Retired Educators Serv. Award, 1988; Wilson Healthcare Serv. Award, 1989; Young Farmers of America Serv. Award, 1997; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Fed. of Older Amers. Assn., 1997; Citizen of the Year, Greater Darlington Chamber of Commerce, 2002; mem., Bd. of Trustees, S.C. Baptist Ministeries on Aging, 2001–05; Darlington Free Med. Bd., 1999; S.C. Assn. of School Admin. Career and Technology, Leadership Award, 2002; recipient of Order of the Palmetto, 2002; S.C. Woman of Achievement by the Miss S.C. Pageant, 2004; prev. serv. in House Aug. 7, 1984–08.



OTT, Harry Legare, Jr. [D]—(Dist. No. 93, Calhoun-Lexington-Orangeburg Cos.)—Farmer; residing at 461 Bull Swamp Rd., St. Matthews; *b.* Oct. 2, 1952 in Orangeburg; *s.* Harry Legare Ott, Sr. and Virginia Inabinet Ott; *g.* Clemson Univ., B.S., 1974; Aug. 7, 1976 *m.* Linda Fleming, 2 sons, Russell and Kevin; Minority Leader; Ways and Means Com.; Public Educ. & Special Schools Budget Subcom.; Econ. Dev., Capital Improvement & Other



Taxes Subcom.; Public Utilities Review Com.; Mason; Natl. Gas Exploration Feasibility Study Com.; Chm., Andrew Chapel United Methodist Admin. Bd., 2008; Chm., Calhoun Co. School Bd., 1992–96; mem., Calhoun Co. School Bd., 1980–88; former mem., Orangeburg-Calhoun Regional Hosp. Foundation Bd.; Calhoun Co. Dev. Comm.; former Pres. & State Dir., Calhoun Co. Farm Bureau; prev. serv. in House 1999–08.



OWENS, Phillip Drayton [R]—(Dist. No. 5, *Pickens Co.*)—Businessman; residing in Easley; b. 1951 in Pickens; s. Fred William and Lillian Parsons Owens; g. Univ. of S.C., B.A., 1973; m. Lynn Catherine Southerland, 2 children, Lori Jill and Kathryn Diana; Bd. mem., Pickens Co. YMCA, 1995–05, Pres., 1997–98, 2007–; First Union/Wachovia Bank Upstate Adv. Bd., 1998–02; Carolina First Bank Adv. Bd., 2002–07; mem.: Greater Easley Chamber of Commerce, 1993–98, Chm., 1994, 2001–04; Pickens Co. Salvation Army Bd., 1995–98; Easley Econ. Dev. Corp., 1997–00; Pickens Co. Manufacturers Assn., 1996–97; YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, 2000–02; Palmetto Baptist Med. Center Foundation Bd. mem., 1999–02, 2008–; Rotarian; mem., St. Andrews United Methodist Church; prev. serv. in House July 2, 2002–08.



PARKER, Steve [R]—(Dist. No. 37, *Spartanburg Co.*)—Businessman; residing at 330 Farm Lake Rd., Boiling Springs; b. May 27, 1951 in Miss.; s. the late Luther and the late Gracie Schrimshire Parker; g. Newberry Coll., B.A., 1973; Converse Coll., MAT, 1975; Univ. of S.C., Ed. Spec., 1978; 1976 m. Rita Kay Hammett, 2 children, Christy and Kevin; owner, Steve Parker Painting and Sealcoating; former school bd. mem., Spartanburg School Dist. Two; former Spartanburg Co. Councilman; charter mem., Boiling Springs Kiwanis Club; founder, Boiling Springs Helping Hands Club; co-founder, SOLVE (Save Our Local Voice in Educ.) Com. to Stop School Dist. Consolidation; mem., Boiling Springs First Baptist Church.

PARKS, Julia Anne [D]—(Dist. No. 12, Greenwood-McCormick Cos.)—Mortician/Funeral Dir., Parks Funeral Home/Licensed Real Estate Agent; *b.* July 1, 1955 in Greenwood; *d.* Julia (Arnold) Parks and the late James Lloyd Parks, Jr.; *g.* Gupton-Jones School of Mortuary Science, 1977; Johnson C. Smith Univ., B.S., 1976; single; mem.: Greenwood City Council, 1988–96; Stop the Violence Com.; former mem.: COOL Bd.—Comm. Outreach Organized Learning; Budget Com. for United Way, 1996; Chamber of Commerce; Delta Sigma Theta Sor.; NAACP; Epsilon Nu Delta Mortuary Frat.; mem.: Organization of Concerned Citizens; Morris Chapel Baptist Church; prev. serv. in House 1997, 1999–08.



PINSON, Lewis Eugene [R]—(Dist. No. 13, Greenwood Co.)—Comm. Relations Dir., Morningside Assisted Living; residing at 306 Plantation Dr., Greenwood; *b.* Nov. 2, 1949 in Greenwood; *s.* Thomas R. and Ruth P. Pinson; *g.* The Citadel, 1972; Liberty Univ. and Clemson Univ., graduate work; Aug. 3, 1974 *m.* Carol V. Metger, 3 children, Brian, Emily, and Neal; Greenwood Co. Council, 1976–82; Greenwood Co. Veterans' Affairs Off., 1983–02; Greenwood School Dist. No. 50, 1986–96; mem. and Deacon, South Main Street Baptist Church; mem.: Retired Officers' Assn.; Greater Greenwood Citadel Club; Citadel Alumni Assoc.; Amer. Legion Post No. 20 (past Comdr.); Voiture 435 40 & 8 (past Chef De Gare); Greenwood Retired Guardsmen; Master Mason, Masonic Lodge No. 358; past Cub Scout Pack Leader, Pack 910; past mem.: Upper Savannah Council of Govt.; GLEAMNS Human Resource Comm.; VC, Greenwood Co. Legis. Delegation; 2003 Outstanding Legislator, S.C. Assn. of Counties; Crossroads Crisis Pregnancy Bd., 2006–, VC, 2008; Western Piedmont Educ. Consortium, Outstanding Legislator, 2007; mil. serv.: 1972–73, USA, 2nd Lt., Lt. Col., SCNG, retired; prev. serv. in House 2003–08.

